

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 10, line 1, delete "~~Claims 1 to 9~~" and insert therefor --Claim 1--;

Claim 12, line 1, delete "or 9";

Claim 15, line 1, delete "or 14";

Claim 17, line 1, delete "or 14";

Claim 18, line 1, delete "or 14";

Claim 19, line 1, delete "or 14";

Claim 20, line 1, delete "or 14";

Claim 23, line 1, delete "Claims 13 to 22" and insert therefor --Claim 13--;

Claim 25, line 1, delete "or 22";

Please add the following claims:

27. The method according to Claim 9 wherein the actin or actin-binding protein is labeled with a dye.
28. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the inhibitor is a toxicant.
29. The method according to Claim 14 wherein said binding partner is a protein or a nucleic acid molecule.
30. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the binding partner is an enzyme.
31. The method according to Claim 14 wherein the binding partner is a substrate of an enzyme.